This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ A support comprising ~~two~~ essentially parallel first and second surfaces, wherein at least one area on said first surface comprises surface structures that form evanescent-fields on the first surface of the support for the detection of optically-active substances within ~~an~~ the evanescent-~~field~~ fields formed on the first surface of the support, ~~in which in at least one area a plane of~~ wherein the surface structures on said surface ~~is~~ comprise inclined surfaces that are inclined with respect to ~~the~~ a plane of the support by an angle α_{wedge} within a range from 10° to 85°.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, ~~comprising at least 10, preferably~~ wherein the at least one area comprises at least 100 areas.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein a region of said first surface, ~~at which the detection of the~~where optically-active substances ~~takes place~~are detected is covered by a top plate.

4. (Currently Amended) Support according to claim 1, wherein α_{wedge} the angle of the inclined surfaces is between ~~15° and 75°, preferably between~~ 25° and 65°.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein the refractive index of material forming the support ~~($n_{support}$) is larger than 1.0 and smaller than 2.0, preferably~~ is between ~~about~~ 1.4 and 1.8.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein ~~within the area on said surface a second plane of the surface adjacent to the first inclined plane is inclined in such that~~ the surface structures comprise a symmetrical pyramidal structure ~~is formed~~.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein at least one capture probe is attached to the surface of the inclined plane.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein the capture probe is selected from the group comprising ~~proteins, in particular~~ antibodies, ~~receptors~~receptor proteins, enzymes, signaling proteins ~~or fragments thereof;~~ peptides~~;~~ , polysaccharides, ~~nucleic acids, in particular~~ ssDNA, dsDNA and RNA~~;~~ ~~nucleic acid analogs, in particular~~and PNA~~;~~ ~~and small molecules~~.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein the support further comprises reagents and/or buffers.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein the support is an optical disc.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Kit comprising a~~ The support according to claim 1, wherein the support comprises a portion of a kit, wherein the kit comprises at least one of ~~and~~ reagents ~~and/or~~and buffers.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ A device for the detection of optically-active substances ~~within the evanescent-field formed at the surface of a support~~ comprising:

a support having opposing first and second surfaces, wherein the first surface comprises inclined surface structures that form evanescent-fields on the first surface of the support by TIR (total internal reflection) of light;

~~a)~~ at least one light source ~~emitting essentially monochromatic light of at least one wavelength,~~ disposed on a side of the support facing the second surface, to emit the light that is directed at the inclined surface structures on the first surface through the support; and

~~b)~~ at least one detector ~~means,~~

~~wherein the at least one light source is arranged in such that it is opposite to the surface of a support, where the detection of the optically-active substance occurs once the support is placed into the device~~ configured to detect an optically-active substance within an evanescent-field formed by the inclined surface structures on the first surface of the support.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, wherein the at least one detector ~~means~~ is arranged on the same side of the support as the light source.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, wherein the at least one light source generates essentially monochromatic light.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least one light source comprises at least two light sources generating essentially monochromatic light of at least two different wavelengths.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a filter ~~is~~ arranged within ~~the~~ a light path of the at least one light source.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, ~~wherein~~ further comprising an objective lens ~~is used~~ configured to

focus the light ~~of the~~ emitted from the at least one light source on the support.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 17, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a mask ~~is~~ placed in the light path between the light source and the ~~mask~~support, which essentially blocks all light directed at the support with an angle ~~α_{NA} smaller than $\arcsin(n_{medium}/n_{support}) - \alpha_{wedge}$~~ that would not result in TIR.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 12, wherein the ~~device further comprises a~~ first and second opposing surfaces of the support ~~comprising two~~are essentially parallel ~~surfaces for the detection of optically-active substances within an evanescent-field formed on the surface of the support, in which~~ and wherein the inclined surface structures are formed in at least one area ~~a plane of said surface is~~ on the first surface, and wherein the inclined surface structures are inclined with respect to ~~the~~ a plane of the support by an angle α_{wedge} ~~from~~ in a range of 10° to 85°.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 19, wherein the support is an optical disc.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 19, wherein ~~the wavelength of the light emitted from the light source, the angle α_{wedge} of the inclined plane(s) of the surface of the support α_{NA} of the light directed at the disc, $n_{support}$ and n_{medium} is (are)~~ optical parameters are selected ~~in~~ such that ~~the~~ a depth d of an evanescent-field, which is formed in a medium comprising the optically active substance applied to the support is ~~between 10 nm and 1 µm, preferably~~ between about 20 nm and 200 nm.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of~~ A method, comprising acts of:

providing a support comprising ~~two~~ essentially parallel first and second surfaces ~~for the detection of optically-active substances within an evanescent-field formed on the surface of the support, in which in~~ wherein at least one area ~~a plane of said surface is~~ on the first surface comprises surface structures that form evanescent fields on the first surface of the support, wherein the surface structures comprise inclined surfaces that are inclined

with respect to ~~the~~ a plane of the support by an angle α_{wedge} from 10° to 85°~~, a kit according to claim 11~~; and

detecting an optically-active substance within a medium disposed adjacent the first surface of the support using evanescent-fields generated by the surface structures on the first surface of the support.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 22, wherein detecting the optically-active substance ~~is detected by~~ comprises at least one of detecting fluorescence, detecting optical scattering, ~~and/or~~and detecting reflectance modulation.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 22, wherein the optically-active substance comprises at least one of a ligand labeled with a fluorescence label, a scattering label, ~~and/or~~and a reflectance modulator.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 22, wherein the optically-active substance ~~or the ligand~~ is contained in or derived from at least one of blood, urine, sperm, vaginal

secretion, stool, sputum, tissue, single cells, lymph ~~and/or the~~ and contents of ~~the~~ a gastrointestinal tract ~~or derived thereof~~.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~the~~ detecting comprises an act of detecting binding or unbinding of the optically-active substance to the first surface of the support ~~is detected~~.